

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 195451 TOSEC 200103

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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

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SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith FULL TEXT VERNON JARRETT OP-ED PAGE COLUMN
CHICAGO TRIBUNE FRIDAY AUGUST 6 HEADED "WHAT KISSINGER STILL
MUST LEARN."

2. IT IS QUITE PROBABLE THAT A BRILLIANT MAN CAN EARN
NEARLY UNIVERSAL REPUTATION AS AN EXPERT ON FOREIGN RELA-
TIONS AND YET KNOW VERY LITTLE ABOUT MORE THAN 11 PER CENT
OF THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN HIS OWN COUNTRY.

3. SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER, WHO TAUGHT FOREIGN
RELATIONS TO SOME OF OUR BRIGHTEST AMERICAN STUDENTS RIGHT
ACROSS THE CHARLES RIVER ON THE CAMPUS OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY,
DISCOVERED MONDAY NIGHT HE HAD A LOT TO LEARN ABOUT BLACK
PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES.

4. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE HISTORY OF THIS COUNTRY A
SECRETARY OF STATE APPEARED BEFORE A BLACK CIVIL RIGHTS
ORGANIZATION, THE 66TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE NATIONAL
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UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 195451 TOSEC 200103

URBAN LEAGUE, AND DELIVERED A MAJOR AMERICAN POLICY STATE-

MENT DEALING WITH THIS COUNTRY'S RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER NATIONS OF THE WORLD.

5. KISSINGER SPOKE FOR NEARLY 50 MINUTES AS HE READ FROM A 47-PAGE DOCUMENT, UNINTERRUPTED BY RESPONSES FROM THE AUDIENCE. HE CALLED FOR RECOGNITION OF AN INDEPENDENT, FREE, AND PEACEFUL AFRICA AS ESSENTIAL TO THE WELFARE OF THE U.S. AND, BY IMPLICATION, COMMITTED THIS COUNTRY TO ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE UNDERDEVELOPED NATIONS OF AFRICA.

6. HE ALSO CALLED FOR A NEW ATTITUDE IN RACE RELATIONS ON THE PART OF RHODESIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA, TWO COUNTRIES THAT HAVE AROUSED THE IRE OF MOST OF THE 50 NEWLY INDEPENDENT AFRICAN NATIONS AND OF THE BLACKS IN THE U.S.

7. AS HE ENTERED THE CROWDED GRAND BALLROOM OF THE SHERATON BOSTON HOTEL, LARGE SECTIONS OF THE AUDIENCE GAVE HIM A STANDING OVATION. HE WAS NOT APPLAUDED AS HE SPOKE, BUT HE WAS CHEERED AT THE END OF THE SPEECH, WITH ABOUT 30 OR 40 OF THE NEAR 3,000 PERSONS WHO HEARD HIM RISING TO THEIR FEET.

8. AFTER THE SPEECH KISSINGER CONSENTED TO A QUESTION-AND-ANSWER PERIOD FROM A PANEL OF JOURNALISTS INCLUDING THE CHICAGO DEFENDER'S ETHEL PAYNE; GENE PELL, CHIEF CORRESPONDENT FOR A BOSTON TELEVISION STATION; TOM JOHNSON OF THE NEW YORK TIMES; AND RONALD BROWN, THE URBAN LEAGUE'S WASHINGTON RESEARCH DIRECTOR.

9. THAT'S WHEN THE TROUBLE STARTED. KISSINGER WAS ASKED WHY THERE WERE NOT MORE BLACKS IN KEY POSITIONS IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT, AND IN GIVING HIS ANSWER HE SUGGESTED, OR LEFT THE IMPRESSION ON THE AUDIENCE, THAT HE WAS UNABLE TO FIND ENOUGH "QUALIFIED" BLACKS.

10. SOME NEWSPAPER AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA REPORTED KISSINGER WAS MET WITH A "CHORUS OF BOOS" AND GENERAL "HISSING." THAT WAS NOT THE CASE. THERE WAS A RESPONSE FROM THE AUDIENCE BUT ONLY ONE INDIVIDUAL BOOED KISSINGER'S ANSWER.

11. HOWEVER, A RATHER MIFFED SECRETARY OF STATE OBVIOUSLY UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 195451 TOSEC 200103

RECOGNIZED HE HAD STRUCK A SOUR NOTE FROM THE IMMEDIATE RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE WHO HAD JUST MINUTES BEFORE APPLAUDED HIM.

12. MOST OF THE URBAN LEAGUE OFFICIALS I SPOKE WITH EXPRESSED DISGUST WITH THE MEDIA'S DRAMATIZATION OF THAT ONE PHASE OF KISSINGER'S APPEARANCE. ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S MOST DISTINGUISHED BLACK ECONOMISTS, DR. ANDREW F. BRIMMER, THE

HARVARD-EDUCATED FORMER MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD, SAID AT THE END OF HIS SPEECH TUESDAY THAT KISSINGER'S DELIVERY OF A MAJOR FOREIGN POLICY STATEMENT AT THE CONVENTION WAS A BREAKTHROUGH.

13. DR. JAMES L. BUCKNER OF CHICAGO, PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF URBAN LEAGUE BOARD PRESIDENTS, DECLARED, "NOW YOU CAN UNDERSTAND WHY SO MANY PEOPLE DON'T BELIEVE WHAT THEY READ IN THE NEWSPAPERS OR TRUST MUCH OF WHAT THEY SEE ON TELEVISION.

14. BUT THE BIGGEST DEFENSE OF KISSINGER CAME THE FOLLOWING NIGHT FROM SEN. HUBERT H. HUMPHREY (D., MINN.), WHO ALSO APPEARED ON A PANEL TO DISCUSS "THE PRESIDENTIAL RACE AND THE BLACK VOTER."

15. "I'M A BIG CARD-CARRYING DEMOCRAT," HE DECLARED, "BUT I'LL TELL YOU THIS: I CAME BACK TO THE SENATE IN 1971... AND I FOUND THERE WAS NO INTEREST IN ANY AFRICA POLICY IN THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE." HE PRAISED KISSINGER'S EFFORTS IN TRYING TO CARRY OUT THE DECISIONS OF THE SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS HEADED BY HUMPHREY AND THEN PRAISED KISSINGER'S URBAN LEAGUE SPEECH AS ONE THAT "THE RIGHT WING IN THIS COUNTRY HATES...THE ONE THAT SOME OF HIS PRESIDENTIAL ADVISERS URGED HIM NOT TO GIVE.

16. "IT'S THE KIND OF A SPEECH...THAT ALL THE NEANDERTHALS IN POLITICS HOOT AT AND JEER AT. HE NEEDS SUPPORT FOR THAT SPEECH."

17. HUMPHREY WAS APPLAUDED LUSTILY AND HE WAS APPLAUDED AGAIN WHEN HE URGED BLACKS TO INSIST THAT CONGRESS, "THE CONGRESS THAT'S DEMOCRATICALLY-CONTROLLED," DEVELOP A UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 195451 TOSEC 200103

POLICY THAT HAS AN INTEREST IN THE WELL-BEING OF THE PEOPLE OF AFRICA, "A POLICY THAT DOES NOT IGNORE PEOPLE'S RIGHTS."

18. HUMPHREY SAID, "I HATE TO ADMIT IT--BUT HE (KISSINGER) GOT MORE BLACKS IN THERE (THE STATE DEPARTMENT) THAN WE HAD. THAT'S A FACT. THAT'S A FACT," HE REPEATED. (END TEXT.) HABIB

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